

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20

/079 W

-----072524 130620Z /12

R 111700Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7416

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

UNCLAS MANAGUA 3721

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, NU

SUBJECT: INDE SUPPORTS CHURCH STATEMENT

REFS: (A) MANAGUA 3599, (B) MANAGUA 3644

1. THE STRONG CHURCH STATEMENTS REPORTED REFTELS HAVE CAUSED QUITE A STIR. ALL MAJOR POLITICAL OPPOSITION GROUPS HAVE PUBLICLY SUPPORTED THE STATEMENTS. TEXT OF INDE STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOLLOWS. INDE IS A PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENTAL BODY.

2. BEGIN QUOTE. IN THESE MOMENTS IN WHICH NICARAGUA FINDS ITSELF IN A PROGRESSIVE AND PAINFUL NATIONAL CRISIS, THE SACERDOTAL COUNCIL, PRESIDED OVER BY ARCHBISHOP MIGUEL OBANDO Y BRAVO, HAS TAKEN ITS STAND IN A TRANSCENDENTAL DOCUMENT SIGNALING THE CIVIC AND DEMOCRATIC ROAD TO CARRY OUT THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS DEMANDED BY NICARAGUANS. THE NICARAGUAN INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT (INDE) FULLY AGREES WITH AND SUPPORTS, WITHOUT RESERVATION, THE CONCEPTS AND GOALS EXPRESSED IN THE DOCUMENT.

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3. THE ESSENCE OF THE SACERDOTAL MESSAGE STEMS FROM THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF TRANSITION WHICH WILL RESTORE THE CONFIDENCE AND CREDIBILITY OF NICARAGUANS AND WHICH CAN ONLY SUCCEED BASED ON MUTUAL CONCESSIONS. WITHIN THESE CONCESSIONS, INDE CONSIDERS IT TO BE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE THAT THE RULER (SOMOZA) PROMOTE, WITH HIS CONSTITUTIONAL WITHDRAWAL, THE URGENT FORMATION OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

4. INDE BELIEVES THAT A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT MUST INCLUDE HONEST CITIZENS AND CAPABLE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VARIOUS POLITICAL TENDENCIES AND SECTORS OF NATIONAL LIFE.

5. WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF CONCORDANCA WHICH THE SACERDOTAL MESSAGE PROPOSES, THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT MUST BEGIN WITH A CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE, DECREETING A POLITICAL AMNESTY WITHOUT EXCEPTIONS. IT MUST BE THE FUNDAMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THIS GOVERNMENT OF TRANSITION TO GUARANTEE THE PLURALISTIC SYSTEM AND FREE SUFFRAGE AS BASES OF AN EFFECTIVE PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIZATION WITH JUSTICE, LIBERTY, AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. THE ACTS AND MEASURES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO BE INSPIRED BY THE SUCCESS THE SOCIAL RESTRUCTURING WHICH THE COUNTRY DEMANDS. SUCH ACTIONS CARRY WITH THEM PROFOUND CHANGES GUARANTEEING A PERMANENT SOCIAL PEACE.

6. TO IMMEDIATELY BRING NICARAGUA WITHIN THE ORBIT OF A FUNCTIONAL AND EFFECTIVE DEMOCRACY, THE CONCURRENCE OF ALL WILLS AND CONCESSIONS BY ALL WILL BE REQUIRED, AS MUST PREVAIL WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES THE PATRIOTIC RESPECT FOR LEGITIMATE DECISIONS BY THE CITIZENRY.

7. INDE CALLS UPON ALL SECTORS TO PUT ASIDE DISCORD AND SHORT-RUN CONCERNS, AND SUPPORT STRONGLY, EFFICIENTLY AND IMMEDIATELY, THE CONCRETE SOLUTION PROPOSED BY THE SACERDOTAL COUNCIL TO
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STRUCTURE A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT. END QUOTE.

8. COMMENT: THIS STATEMENT BY INDE IS REPRESENTATIVE OF OPPOSITION REACTION TO THE CHURCH STATEMENTS--ESPECIALLY THE SECOND ONE (REFTEL B). THE CHURCH MESSAGES HAVE BECOME A NEW RALLYING POINT FOR THE OPPOSITION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, GOVERNMENT REFORM, BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, OPPOSITION PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MANAGU03721
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780331-0190
Format: TEL
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780874/aaaacjxk.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 34d5f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MANAGUA 3599, 78 MANAGUA 3644
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1769457
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDE SUPPORTS CHURCH STATEMENT
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, NU, INDE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/34d5f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014